

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are well. There's a real sense of momentum building as we head into December with Christmas on the horizon and lots of exciting activities already underway.



It's been a brilliant few weeks across the school. Highlights have included our Swimming Gala and Water Polo Competition, where students gave it their all and supported each other with real enthusiasm, and a visit to the King Edward Mine Museum, where learners impressed staff with their curiosity and teamwork during robotics challenges. In Acorn, excitement is building for our upcoming Lappa Valley Christmas trip and the new Acorn Library is taking shape — we're excited to be filling it with books that reflect our students' interests, needs, and imagination. Over time, we'll continue to build a rich collection that supports reading for pleasure, emotional development, and communication skills.

We also want to take a moment to remind families about our School Pantry, a new resource supported by the MCKS Charitable Foundation. It's here to offer practical support to any families who may need it. Grocery bags can be requested through your child's tutor or the Family Support team and include a mix of dried goods, cereals, tins and sometimes toiletries. There's no fixed limit on use, we want this to be flexible and supportive for those who need it. If you'd like more information, please contact the Family Support team directly.

As always, thank you for the ongoing support you give your children and our school community, it makes all the difference.

*Best Wishes
Matt*

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Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save The
Children - **Thursday 11th December**

Christmas Lunch - **Thursday 18th December**

Winter Wonderland - **Thursday 18th December**
13:30-16:00

All Day Rich Time -
Acorn - **Friday 12th December**
Darley & Oregon - **Tuesday 16th and Wednesday**
17th December



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Oaktree SWIMMING GALA



This week, Oak Tree School hosted an unforgettable Gala and Water Polo Competition that proved to be a wave of fun and excitement! With 10 enthusiastic students diving headfirst into an afternoon filled with friendly rivalry, everyone was ready to make a splash and show their skills in the water.

The event kicked off with the Swimming Gala, where our young athletes took to the pool like fish to water. Swimmers gave it their all in various races, speeding through the water and showing off their techniques.

Next up was the Water Polo Competition, where our players showed that teamwork really makes the dream work. The energy was palpable as they faced off in one big, exciting match, demonstrating their strategy and water skills with impressive coordination. The laughter and cheers echoed around the pool as each goal was scored, proving that everyone was having a blast.

Whether they were swimming with speed or playing water polo with flair, all participants had a whale of a time. It was heartwarming to see the students supporting one another, celebrating victories, and learning from their experiences in true Oak Tree spirit.



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King Edward Mine MUSEUM

We had a brilliant visit to King Edward Mine Museum this month.!

Learners really enjoyed exploring the museum, seeing how the old machinery worked, and discovering the fascinating history, and future, of Cornish mining.

After the tour, learners worked in teams to build and program LEGO Spike robots, completing challenges themed around mining.

It was great to see so much teamwork, curiosity, and problem-solving in action.

The staff at the museum were extremely complimentary about our learners, commenting on how polite, engaged, and inquisitive they were throughout the visit. They asked lots of great questions and represented Oak Tree School brilliantly.



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NEWSLETTER - ACORN

Message from Ben:

Thank you so much to those parents that managed to attend our Open Afternoon in Acorn- we hope you found it useful to see the learning that's been happening in classes. There is a second opportunity on Tuesday 2nd December and we will hold another open evening in March.



We have lots of exciting things going on in December in the build up to Christmas including a very exciting Acorn trip to ride the train at Lappa Valley and a trip to see Santa!



Staffing updates in Acorn

Goodbyes

Sadly, we recently said goodbye to some members of our beloved team.

Taryn has left and moved up country.

Our Assistant SENDCO and designated teacher for CIC, Kristie has left now and is going to be travelling to her home country, Australia.

We are also saying goodbye to Jimmy who is leaving at the end of next week to go travelling in Australia and New Zealand.

We wish all of these people luck in their bright futures.

Joiners

We would like to welcome Elena Markou who will be working up in Trebah classroom as a teaching assistant and Kalya Manley who will be positioned in the Porth Saxon classroom, also as a teaching assistant.

We have been busy creating our own library in Acorn building for children to discover and explore their love of reading! We are all very excited by this and will give more information soon!

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NEWSLETTER - ACORN

Decorations

Christmas decorations can go up in classrooms from Monday 1st December. If your children would like to bring in some decorations that you aren't going to be using in your own home then they are more than welcome.

Christmas Post Box

There will be a red post box in my office from the 1st of December for children to leave cards in for each other. I will then play postman once the box is full, and deliver these!

Lappa Valley Trip

On Friday 12th December we will all be going on a trip to see Santa and ride the train at Lappa Valley, packed lunch will be provided. Back in time for taxis home.

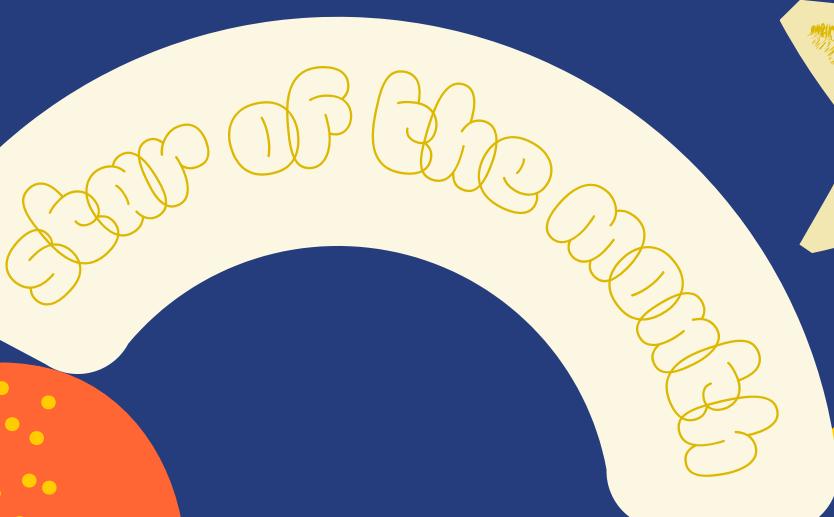
Christmas Class Parties

On Wednesday 17th December we will have an Acorn Christmas Party. We invite children to bring in some party food* to contribute to a small buffet in their classroom during the afternoon session whilst other Christmas activities are happening.

*Sausage rolls and other savoury snacks, cakes, crisps, fruit, biscuits are all sensible contributions. Unfortunately we cannot accept home made food without clear labels as to the ingredients.

Christmas Quiz

- Q1) What are the three months of winter?
- Q2) What three gifts did the Wise Men bring for Jesus?
- Q3) Name all of Santa's reindeer.
- Q4) In the song, what is the gift on the seventh day of Christmas?
- Q5) What was the name of the town where Jesus was born?



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Save the Children

Christmas Jumper Day



Be part of it!

Where

Oak Tree School

When

December 11th 2025

Other details

**Donations of £1 to wear your fave
Christmas jumpers!**

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SCHOOL

Pantry



The Family Support team are excited to announce that we now have our very own school pantry in place to support our families and young people. The school pantry is being supported by MCKS Charitable Foundation.

How do parents/families' access this?

You can request a grocery bag through your child's tutor team or the family support team. Please see the email contacts below.

The family support team will then put together a grocery bag that can be sent home with the young person or given to the you if you collect your child from school.

Is there a limit on how often a family can request a grocery bag?

We want this to be a facility that all parents and carers can access and particularly in times of need. However, we have no way of telling how quickly supplies will last between the deliveries to school, so this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

What will be included in the grocery bag?

Dried foods, tins, cereal/cereal bars, pasta, long life milk, cooking sauces etc and on occasions we will get toiletries. We cannot, however, accept requests, a grocery bag will be made up of a variety of the foods listed above.



For more information please contact: 01872 264221
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